

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR  
THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI  
NORTHERN DIVISION

MICHAEL COREY JENKINS, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

vs. Civil Action No. 3:23-cv-374-DPJ-ASH

RANKIN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, et al.,

Defendants.



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**EXHIBIT 1**

CHRISTIAN DEDMON  
81690

January 24, 2025

2

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CHRISTIAN DEDMON  
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January 24, 2025

36

1 Q. All right. But at the City of Pearl, did  
2 you receive any further instruction on police  
3 brutality or excessive force?

4 A. No, sir.

5 Q. All right. And at the Rankin County  
6 Sheriff's Department, did you receive any further  
7 training or instruction regarding police brutality  
8 or the use of excessive force?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Was there ever any emphasis within the  
11 Rankin County Sheriff's Department about the  
12 avoidance of excessive force or brutality?

13 A. I'd just like to have -- speak to Mr.  
14 Mullins.

15 Q. Okay. Where did the name "Goon Squad"  
16 come from?

17 A. Sir, I did not learn that that existed  
18 until I was in jail.

19 Q. You didn't learn that the Goon Squad  
20 existed until you were in jail?

21 A. Yes, sir. I -- my attorney at that time,  
22 I've seen a picture of a coin, and I -- obviously, I  
23 don't -- I can't get online these days, but I've  
24 heard of -- of messages. But I would say within  
25 those messages, Christian Dedmon was never in any of

1 them, and I did not know that there was a name "Goon  
2 Squad."

3 Q. So you said you seen pictures of a coin?  
4 I infer that to mean that you never possessed a Goon  
5 Squad Challenge coin?

6 A. No, sir.

7 Q. All right. Did you know that that Goon  
8 Squad Challenge coin existed --

9 A. I did not.

10 Q. -- before you were arrested?

11 A. I did not.

12 Q. Over the course of your criminal  
13 proceeding, several facts came to light. And I  
14 believe that you admitted to those facts being true  
15 at the point in time where you entered your guilty  
16 plea, not at your sentencing. And some of those  
17 facts had to do with what led up to and what  
18 happened at 135 Conerly Road in Braxton,  
19 Mississippi, on the night of January 24, 2023.  
20 You're familiar with what I'm talking about?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. All right. One of the facts that you  
23 admitted to was that you sent out a text over an app  
24 that I believe is WhatsApp, and asked to a number of  
25 people, "Are y'all available for a mission?" Is

1    **that correct?**

2           A.    That's not. I did not use WhatsApp.

3           **Q.    Okay. What did you use?**

4           A.    A text message.

5           **Q.    Text message. So you had a group text?**

6           A.    I created one at that time. I was never  
7 in there. What was later explained to me is -- I  
8 guess just cut to the chase. I've heard about this  
9 Goon Squad WhatsApp, but I'm just telling you that  
10 on a personal level, I was never in -- in this group  
11 message on WhatsApp, nor was I ever given a coin,  
12 nor did I know that that was a -- a thing. I guess  
13 we could give opinions about it all day that you're  
14 not interested in, but I was never a part of that.

15          **Q.    Okay. Well, I just want to be clear to**  
16 **maybe cut down on time later on. You were not a**  
17 **part of any WhatsApp text messaging that may have**  
18 **been going on regarding other deputies in the**  
19 **department. Is that true or false?**

20          A.    That's false. We -- we had a WhatsApp for  
21 the SWAT Team.

22          **Q.    Okay. The SWAT Team --**

23          A.    Had its own WhatsApp --

24          **Q.    All right.**

25          A.    -- that every SWAT Team member would use

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65

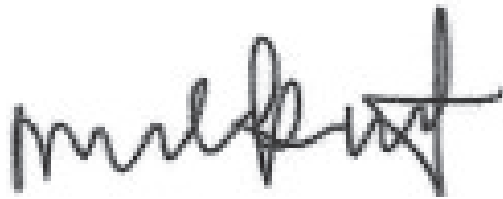
## 1 CERTIFICATE

2  
3 I, Mae Knight, do hereby certify that I  
4 reported all proceedings adduced in the foregoing  
5 matter and that the foregoing transcript pages  
6 constitutes a full, true and accurate record of said  
7 proceedings to the best of my ability.

8  
9 I further certify that I am neither  
10 related to counsel or any party to the proceedings  
11 nor have any interest in the outcome of the  
12 proceedings.

13  
14 IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my  
15 hand this 13th day of February, 2025.

16  
17  
18  
19



20 Mae Knight  
21  
22  
23  
24  
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